

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 8 with the following:

--The *Bacillus subtilis* microorganism RB50 used in the present invention was deposited with the Agricultural Research Culture Collection (NRRL), 1815 North University Street, Peoria, IL 61604, USA, under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on May 23, 1989, and was assigned accession number B 18502. Plasmid pRF69 used in the present invention was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 12301 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD 20852, USA, on June 6, 1990, and was assigned accession number ATCC 68338.--

Please replace the section of the application entitled "ABSTRACT" on page 36 with the following Substitute Abstract:

--ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a process for producing a target fermentation product. This process includes providing a fermentation medium containing a recombinantly-produced microorganism that over-produces a fermentation product and contains a mutation which causes auxotrophic growth of the microorganism wherein the auxotrophy within the microorganism does not compromise the ability of the microorganism to produce the fermentation product. The medium is then supplied in excess with all substrates required for production of the fermentation product and in

growth limiting amounts with a substrate complementing the auxotrophy. Host cells, vectors, and polynucleotide sequences used in the process are also provided. The polynucleotide sequences of the present invention include sequences derived from the biotin operon of *B. subtilis* and in particular the *bioFDB* gene cassette.--